



The Topeka Housing Authority

2010 SE California

Topeka, KS 66607-1444

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Topeka Housing Authority has received a 5-year grant, Mainstream Housing Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities funding, from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. With this grant, the Topeka Housing Authority will be able to provide approximately 20 Vouchers for persons with disabilities. The total value of the grant is \$479,683. While these vouchers are similar to the regular vouchers that THA issues, only persons with disabilities are eligible to apply. Mainstream vouchers can be used anywhere within the City of Topeka and Shawnee County.

To begin the Mainstream Housing Opportunities voucher program, THA has established the following timeline:

- During the week of May 15 - 19, 2006 persons with disabilities may fill out a preliminary application for Mainstream Vouchers between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM at the THA Office, 2010 SE California.
- On Monday, May 22, 2006, THA will create the Mainstream Voucher Waiting List by drawing names of the individuals who have applied to that point. (All who completed a preliminary application during the previous week will have an equal chance in this lottery.)
- From this point forward, names will be placed on the Waiting List based on the date and time an application is received.
- On May 22, 2006 THA staff will prepare letters to send to the first twenty names on the Mainstream Voucher Waiting List.
- Interviews will be scheduled for June 5, 2006.
- A Briefing will be held on June 27, 2006 explaining the next steps and Mainstream Vouchers will be given out. The effective date of these vouchers will be July 1, 2006. Recipients of these first Mainstream Vouchers will have 120 days to complete the process of finding a home and completing the necessary paperwork.

In addition to these Mainstream Vouchers, The Topeka Housing Authority has 636 units of Public Housing and approximately 1,000 regular Vouchers. The Mission of THA is to "Successfully Provide Accessible Affordable Housing. Success is defined as: 1) Putting applicants, tenants and participants first, 2) Market competitiveness, and 3) Fiscal strength and integrity.

For more information please contact: Mary Boyles, 2010 SE California, Topeka, KS 66606. (785) 357-8842, ext. 472.